

Sustainable Communities program Application for designation renewal

Eligible Applicants:

- Local Governments with a Sustainable Communities
 Designation
- Local Government Consortiums with a Sustainable Communities Designation

Application must be submitted on or before the expiration date of Sustainable Communities designation.

Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development

Division of Neighborhood Revitalization

2 N Charles Street, Suite 450

Baltimore, MD 21201

410-209-5800

http://dhcd.maryland.gov/

LARRY HOGAN, Governor

KENNETH C. HOLT, Secretary

BOYD K. RUTHERFORD, Lt. Governor

TONY REED, Deputy Secretary

OVERVIEW OF SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

The Sustainable Communities Act of 2010 established a framework for reinvestment and revitalization of Maryland's existing communities creating a single, locally designated geographic focus area. Since that time the "Sustainable Communities" designation has provided an efficient means of targeting scarce public and private resources for multiple State agency investments and prioritizations.

PURPOSE OF RENEWAL AND STREAMLINED APPLICATION

The Sustainable Communities (SC) designation must be renewed every five years. This renewal application provides an opportunity for local governments to update their existing SC action plan and report on the accomplishments made over the past five years. Through the renewal process, local governments can request additional technical assistance and highlight any areas from the original action plan for which progress must still be made.

APPLICATION ASSISTANCE

If a local government has limited capacity, staff from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) and Department of Planning (MDP) will be available to assist local government officials through the application process.

Please contact your Regional Project Manager at DHCD if you would like to request or learn more about this assistance (see page iv for contact information).

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES BENEFITS

The benefits of a Sustainable Community designation are substantial. The SC designation is a threshold requirement for application to several Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development revitalization programs (such as the Community Legacy Program and Strategic Demolition Fund listed below). Other programs from both the Department and other State agencies offer additional points or preference in the application process. The Sustainable Communities designation provides access to a suite of resources that can support housing and community development, local transportation enhancements, tax credit programs and programs to support a healthier environment. Taken together, these resources can promote safer, healthier and more attractive communities for families to live and put down roots.

Community Legacy Program is administered by the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development and provides local governments and community development organizations with financial assistance to strengthen communities through such activities as business retention and attraction, encouraging homeownership and commercial revitalization. Community Legacy funds are restricted to Sustainable Community Areas.

Strategic Demolition Fund is administered by the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development and provides grants and loans to local governments and community development organizations for predevelopment activities including demolition and land assembly for housing and revitalization projects.

The Strategic Demolition Fund catalyzes public and private investment in the reuse of vacant and underutilized sites. These funds are restricted to Sustainable Communities.

Application Eligibility and Threshold Requirements

Local governments (municipal or county) are eligible to apply.

Eligible applicants are to convene their <u>Sustainable Communities Workgroup</u> to discuss the accomplishments and challenges of their Sustainable Community Action Plans in addition to any update they may like to make to the Action Plan. The applicant may choose to select new members to participate in the Workgroup. The purpose of this workgroup is to continue and reinforce working relationships and collaborations among local governmental departments and better align community development priorities and strategies. In addition, this is an opportunity to assess if the Workgroup would like technical assistance from State government agencies to implement certain action items or develop strategies to address local challenges.

Threshold Requirements

All Sustainable Community applications must meet the following threshold requirements:

- 1) Sustainable Community Area boundaries must be entirely within a Priority Funding Area (PFA) and should be an area in need of renewal and reinvestment that would benefit from a targeted long-term strategy;
- 2) The proposed Sustainable Community is within or near a town center or transportation center, or there is a need for financing assistance for small businesses, nonprofit organizations or microenterprises;
- 3) The updated Plan must be consistent with other existing community or comprehensive plans;
- 4) A Sustainable Communities Workgroup is re-convened and a roster of members should be provided with the application.

Applications that do not meet these threshold requirements will not be considered.

Application Evaluation

The Sustainable Community application for renewal will be evaluated based on the reporting of the accomplishments achieved and a thorough assessment of local strengths and weaknesses and how well desired outcomes, strategies and action steps are connected to the local conditions.

Priority Funding Areas

All Sustainable Communities must be located entirely within a Priority Funding Area. Applicants can verify Priority Funding Area boundaries by visiting the MDP website at: http://www.mdp.state.md.us/OurProducts/pfamap.shtml

Application Training

The Department will be hosting various webinars for communities planning to submit a renewal application. Attendance at a minimum of one application training session is strongly encouraged for all applicants. Contact your Regional Project Manager (contact information page iv) to schedule an application training or verify when the webinars will be scheduled.

Application Submission

Applications will be submitted <u>both electronically/digitally and via postal mail</u>. Each applicant must submit <u>one</u> hard copy of their application with all required attachments. DHCD reserves the right to not consider incomplete applications.

The first printed page of the electronic application is a Table of Contents (see page vii). This should also serve as a checklist and be used to provide corresponding tabs. In addition to the digital copy of the application, all pictures and maps are to be submitted on a CD-ROM or flash drive. Pictures should be burned to the CD in a JPEG format and maps should be burned to the CD in a pdf format. Please ALSO include GIS shapefiles of Sustainable Community boundaries and other GIS related data if a boundary change is requested. Be sure to label your files on the CD-ROM appropriately, i.e., "Proposed Sustainable Community Boundary," "Current Sustainable Community Boundary," etc.

No incomplete applications will be accepted.

Deliver Sustainable Community Applications to:
Sustainable Community Application
ATTN: Mary Kendall
Division of Neighborhood Revitalization
Department of Housing and Community Development
2 N Charles Street, Suite 450
Baltimore, MD 21201

Site Visits, Follow-up Discussion

During the application review process, the review team may make site visits, hold meetings or have for follow-up discussions with applicants prior to designation approval.

Approval

Approval of applications will be made by the Governor's Smart Growth Coordinating Committee on the recommendation of an inter-agency review team. The review team is coordinated by the Department of Housing and Community Development.

Contact Information

All questions related to application content, please contact your regional project manager. Regional contacts listed in the table on the next page.

DIVISION OF NEIGHBOR	HOOD REVITALIZATION, STATE REV REGIONAL PROJECT MANAGERS	
REGION 1: Northwest Baltimore City Northwest Baltimore County	REGION 2: Northeast Baltimore City Northeast Baltimore County	REGION 3:
Larry Brown Assistant Director Phone: 410-209-5819 Email: larry.brownjr@maryland.gov	Garland Thomas Project Manager Phone: 410-209-5803 Email: garland.thomas@maryland.gov	Olivia Ceccarelli-McGonigal Project Manager Phone: 410-209-5826 Email: olivia.ceccarelli@maryland.gov
REGION 4: Southwest Baltimore City Southwest Baltimore County Howard County	REGION 5: Western Maryland • Allegany • Frederick • Garrett • Washington • Carroll	REGION 6: Washington DC Metropolitan • Prince George's • Montgomery
Nick Mayr Project Manager Phone: 410-209-5842 Email: nicholas.mayr@maryland.gov	Sara Jackson Project Coordinator Phone: 410-209-5812 Email: Sara.jackson@maryland.gov	Duane Felix Assistant Director Phone: 410-209-5825 Email: <u>Duane.Felix@maryland.gov</u>
REGION 7: Upper Eastern Shore • Harford County • Caroline • Cecil • Kent • Queen Anne's • Talbot	REGION 8: Lower Eastern Shore, Southern Maryland Lower Eastern Shore Dorchester Somerset Wicomico Worcester Southern Maryland Calvert Charles St. Mary's	
Ashlee Green Project Manager Phone: 410-209-5815 Email: Ashlee.Green@maryland.gov	Ashlee Green Project Manager Phone: 410-209-5815 Email: Ashlee.Green@maryland.gov	

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PLAN ELEMENTS

Ongoing designation as a Sustainable Community is contingent upon the continuation, expansion, and/or modification of a multi-year investment strategy that addresses the topic areas of Environment, Economy, Transportation, Housing, Quality of Life, and Land Use/Local Planning. The table below provides a non-exhaustive list of ideas that can be incorporated into each element as they are addressed in the sections that follow in this application.

ENVIRONMENT: Environmental accomplishments and objectives may include improvement of quality of land, water, air or watersheds, increased tree canopy, mitigation or adaptation to issues related to sea level rise, reduction of carbon footprint, improved energy conservation, access to local foods, green infrastructure, stormwater infrastructure/management, construction of parks, trails and other recreation facilities, recycling, improved water and sewer capacity, etc.

ECONOMY: Economic accomplishments and objectives may include increased regional accessibility, business attraction/retention, improved health of the business district and decreased commercial vacancies, improved accessibility to employment opportunities and economic drivers, adopted local policies/regulations that encourage economic growth, enhanced marketing and tourism, improvements to cultural and historic assets, etc.

TRANSPORTATION: Transportation accomplishments and objectives may include increased access to transit corridors, improved pedestrian safety and increased accessibility/sidewalks, alternative modes of transportation, such as bikeways and trails, public transit, such as bus and rail, carpooling, improved parking and road conditions, etc.

<u>HOUSING</u>: Housing accomplishments and objectives may include an increase in affordable, workforce or market rate housing, either for homeownership or rental, improved housing conditions and values, increase in housing programs, reduction in foreclosures and residential vacancies, increase in property values and home sale values, etc.

QUALITY OF LIFE: Quality of life accomplishments and objectives may include crime, socio-economic demographics, educational opportunities, museums, libraries, historic and cultural assets, civic amenities, faith-based organizations, economic health of households, sense of place, etc.

<u>LAND USE/LOCAL PLANNING</u>: Land use accomplishments and objectives may include changes to zoning, improved land use policies, increase/decrease in taxes and fees, etc.

RENEWAL APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

The Sustainable Communities application for renewal has **three** sections:

A. Contact information, General Information, Organizational Capacity:

In this section, applicants are asked to update their contact information, provide information about demographic shifts over the past five years, discuss the strengths and weaknesses of their Sustainable Communities workgroup and share any technical assistance needs the workgroup may have.

B. Qualitative and Comprehensive Report on accomplishments over past <u>five</u> years:

The report is an opportunity to reflect on any accomplishments achieved in the Sustainable Community area. It is a tool used to evaluate if the SC applicant achieved its intended outcomes, implemented the strategies initially envisioned and identify what resources were used. Renewal applicants are encouraged to discuss how priorities, actions, and objectives were or were not achieved across the six elements listed on the previous page (v), including how any of the elements may have interrelated during the five initial years of SC designation.

C. Sustainable Communities Action Plan Update:

The Sustainable Communities Action Plan has been revised so that it is less time consuming and focused on developing a strategic implementation plan. Renewal applicants are encouraged to use their previous Sustainable Communities applications as a basis for their updated Action Plan. You may identify which weaknesses have not yet been addressed or which strategies have not yet been implemented. Include your revitalization priorities for the next five years, basing them on your community's current strengths and weaknesses.

CHECKLIST AND TABLE OF CONTENTS

APPLICANT: Joe Adkins, Deputy Director for Planning

NAME OF SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY: City of Frederick

Please review the checklist of attachments and furnish all of the attachments that are applicable. Contents of the application should be tabbed and organized as follows:
☐ Section A - Sustainable Community Renewal Applicant Information
☐ Section B – Sustainable Community Renewal Report (Projects, Strategies and Partners)
☐ Section C – Sustainable Community Renewal Action Plan Update (Matrix)
☐ Section D – Sustainable Communities Workgroup Roster
☐ Section E – Signature Letter (acknowledging Disclosure Authorization and Certification)
☐ Section F – CD-ROM: The CD-ROM should include the following contents:
• If requesting a boundary modification, map in pdf format of the proposed Sustainable Community
• GIS shapefiles of the modified Sustainable Community boundary (if requesting a modification) and other GIS related data
• Pictures (jpeg format) of your accomplished projects of the last five years (as indicated in Section B)

Digital copy of completed Sustainable Communities Renewal Application

I. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY RENEWAL APPLICANT INFORMATION

I. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY – General Information

A. Sustainable Community Boundary and Description

- (1) Are you requesting any changes to your Sustainable Community boundary? Describe why or why not?
 - No changes are being requested at this time.
- (2) Include the following in as an attachment (if requesting a modification to your current boundary):
 - a. PDF or JPEG of modified Sustainable Communities boundary map,
 - b. GIS shapefiles of modified Sustainable Community boundary (mapped to the parcel boundary),
- (3) Approximate number of acres of entire SC Area: 3775 acres
- (4) Existing federal, state or local designations:
 - X Main Street □Maple Street
 - X National Register Historic District X Local Historic District X Arts & Entertainment District
 - X State Enterprise Zone Special Taxing District X BRAC □ State Designated TOD
 - \square Other(s):
- (5) Describe the SC Area's current demographic trends (with respect to age, race, household size, household income, educational attainment, number of housing units, or other relevant factors). How have demographics changed in the last five years?

		Housing Compari	sons	
	Golden Mile	Downtown	East Frederick	City
Population				
1990	12,851	8,449	13,524	40,846
2000	17,651	8,100	13,746	52,767
2019 (4/19 estimate)	21,832	8,451	15,494	70, 429
Households				
1990	4,782	3,499	5,917	15,937
2000	6,587	3,618	6,140	20,891
2019 (est)				
Median HH				
Income				
1990	\$56,532	\$38,244	\$45,583	\$50,605
2000	\$53,507	\$41.044	\$43,909	\$51,753
Homeownership				
1990	39.9%	38.2%	46.7%	45.7%
2000	49.1%	43.1%	48.4%	55.6%

Golden Mile

Again one of the Golden Mile's strongest attribute is the fact that there are over 21,000 persons within an easy walk or drive of the commercial corridor. This region is still creating new homes as can be seen in the rise in the number of households. There are three new residential projects moving forward providing a mix of housing types. The Summers Farm, VFW and Waverly View will provide over 1,300 new units to this part of the corridor. This region has the highest person per household with over 2.6 persons per household. The large majority of the housing units have been built over the last thirty years which would follow the development pattern of the commercial corridor.

Downtown

With the real-estate has a higher value than other areas of the City, the downtown is the only getting stronger. As the identity of the City and the County, the Downtown remains strong and vital. There are several new residential projects moving forward that will provide a mix of residential units. These projects include the Visitation Academy, Goodwill Building and several LIHTC projects.

East Frederick

The East Frederick Region is seeing substantial growth as well. With the Renn Farm now approved, this development will provide over a 1,000 new units and 30 acres of passive and active parkland. East Frederick has the largest amount of industrial zone land in the City and is home to Frederick Municipal Airport the State's second busiest general aviation airport.

B. Organizational Structure, Experience and Public Input:

(1) Describe any changes to the Applicant's organizational structure. Specifically, how has membership of the Sustainable Communities Workgroup changed in the last five years? Who are/were the leaders, and how will/did the Workgroup advisor or staff manage implementation of the SC Area Plan?

We have three different nonprofit groups and the City of Frederick that work towards the goals of the Sustainable Community Plan. The Golden Mile Alliance is the nonprofit that is in charge of promoting the efforts and redevelopment on the Golden Mile. The Golden Mile Alliance worked with the Planning Department on creating the Golden Mile Small Area Plan. The Golden Mile Alliance has representation from the citizens, businesses, property owners, elected officials and staff.

The Downtown Partnership is a Main Street organization that promotes the redevelopment and investment in the Downtown. This nonprofit has representation from the citizens, businesses, property owners, elected officials and staff.

East Frederick Rising is the nonprofit that helps promotes the East Frederick and works towards the goals of the Sustainable Community Plan. East Frederick Rising has representation from the citizens, businesses, property owners, elected officials and staff. East Frederick Rising worked in with the Planning Department on creating the East Street Corridor Plan for the City. From East Frederick Rising

and the East Street Corridor Plan a new group of concerned citizens, property owners and business owners was created to solely promote the East Street Corridor.

(2) What have been the strengths and challenges of the capacity of the Sustainable Communities Workgroup with respect to implementation of the SC Plan?

The biggest challenge is that that area is very large and has three different nonprofits working towards the goals of the Sustainable Communities Plan. Coordination is critical and is why the City has staff on all three boards or is attendance for all meetings.

(3) How did residents and other stakeholders in the community provide input to the Sustainable Communities Action Plan update? On which existing local plans (comprehensive plans, economic development plans, sector plans, etc.) is the Sustainable Communities Action Plan based?

The City of Frederick has just adopted its first Strategic Plan and this plan will help set the goals and policies for the City. The City is currently in the process of updating its 2010 Comprehensive Plan. The update of the Comprehensive Plan will be based in large part on the goals and polices of the Strategic Plan.

The City of Frederick has undertaken two small area plans within the Sustainable Community Plan. The most recent was the East Street Corridor Plan (made part of this application)that comprised of an older industrial corridor with parcels that are underutilized. One of the major tenants of the plan was the need not to force out existing businesses along the corridor. Another major issue facing this corridor is the lack of public sidewalks, streetlights, street trees, shared use paths and curb & gutter. East Street Corridor Plans was adopted by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen on August 3, 2017.

Golden Mile Small Area Plan (made part of this application) was adopted by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen on January 17, 2013. This was the City's first attempt at a small area plan. The Golden Mile was named back in the 1970's since the first mall located here along with other major retailers. This area flourished until the mid 1990's when more commercial areas came on line. Today, the Fredericktowne Mall which has sat empty is under new ownership and has its first tenant committed.

The Downtown Frederick Partnership has undertaken in cooperation with the City of Frederick several different studies.

Downtown Frederick's Strategic Plan Downtown Parking Study Live Downtown Frederick Housing Symposium (April 2019) Preparing to start the feasibility study for the Downtown Circulator Study

The City of Frederick is also working with Plamondon Hospitality Partners on the final details to secure a downtown hotel / conference center at the site of the old Frederick News Post building.

All three areas (Golden Mile, Downtown, East Frederick) have several commonalities. The first is that all three have very active nonprofit organizations that are promoting their respective areas. Having an active nonprofit is critical in pushing issues forward. Nonprofits can assist areas in ways that local

governments cannot. City staff and elected officials attend all three board meetings. This helps in providing a consistent message and avoids duplication of efforts.

As mentioned above all three areas have small area plans in place to help in guiding each area. Also all three areas have a façade restoration fund that can be used to spruce buildings in each area. Overall the City is trying to allocate resources to all three areas so that each vision can be achieved.

(4) Would you like any technical assistance from State agencies to help expand the capacity of your SC Workgroup or implement your SC plan? Please describe with which revitalization strategies you would like assistance.

The State of Maryland has been very generous with assistance to the City when dealing with the Sustainable Community initiatives. The City of Frederick knows if future concerns come up that the State and its resources will be there to assist.

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY RENEWAL REPORT PART I: QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT

Purpose:

The purpose of this assessment is to capture significant projects/ improvements that have been completed since the approval of your local government's Sustainable Communities designation.

In relation to the goals stated in your local government's Sustainable Community Action Plan, <u>please highlight at least</u> three major accomplishments from the last five years, including how you achieved them. When writing your narrative, consider the questions below and refer to the six elements discussed in the General Information section of this document (page iv) – Environment, Economy, Transportation, Housing, Quality of Life, and Land Use/Local Planning.

- 1) **Outcome**: Which outcomes identified in your Sustainable Community plan were you able to achieve?
- 2) **Projects**: Which projects did you implement in order to achieve the outcome? Also indicate when you started and completed these projects.
- 3) Partners: With whom (i.e. state agencies, local stakeholders) did you partner to complete projects?
- 4) **Impact**: What kind of measurable impact did the achieved outcome have on your community? Are there other intangible benefits?
- 5) **Pictures**: Please also include pictures that depict your accomplishments.

[EXAMPLE] Descriptive Narrative: Please list the most significant accomplishments that apply

Example – Accomplishment 1

Outcome: Improved stormwater management

Projects:

Project 1: Stormwater Retrofit Plan – In October 2014, the Town Council approved the Town's stormwater retrofit plan which outlines various strategies and capital budget expenditures over the next five years. Strategies include reducing the amount of impervious surface in the community and improving stormwater management. One of the plan recommendations is to pass an ordinance that assesses an environmental protection fee on municipal permits.

Project 2: Green Streets – The Town added green elements to approximately 600 linear feet of roadway that had been experiencing severe flooding. Specifically, bioswales were constructed and trees were planted.

Partners:

Chesapeake Bay Trust – provided technical assistance

MD DHCD – provided financial assistance in form of a Community Legacy grant (totaling \$50,000).

Impact: The implementation of the projects had a significant impact on the community by improving stormwater runoff. The streets with the newly constructed bioswales no longer experience flooding.

Descriptive Narrative: Please list the most significant accomplishments that apply.

Accomplishment 1:

Outcome: Make Vital Path Connection

Projects: Complete a vital path connection that connects the Downtown Region with the Golden Mile Region.

Partners: Friends of Baker and Waterford Parks, NAC 6/9, MDOT SHA, MDOT Bikeways, MDE, Army Corps of Engineers, Concrete General, and Contech Bridges.

Impact: This project is estimated to be used by 75 pedestrians and bikers each day.

Projects: Started the planning and design of the East Street Corridor Rails to Trails project. The City of Frederick now has the funding for the completion of the southern leg of the project (phase 2), phase one completed a couple years ago. Soon cyclists will be able to ride off of the street from the Family Meal to Frederick Indoor Sports Center. Future phases will extend the path will bridge over MD26 and north to Womans Mill and will connect to a trail coming from Walkersville.

Partners: MDOT SHA, MDOT MTA, FRA, Rails to Trails Conservancy, NAC, Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee, Delegate Krimm, Duffie Companies, Frederick County Planning, Frederick Bicycle Coalition, and Walkersville Southern Rail Road.

Impact: The completed project will create a north / south spine along East Street for pedestrians and bicyclist from the Downtown MARC Station to Walkersville.

Accomplishment 2:

Outcome: Acquire, plan and construct necessary parkland

Projects: West Side Regional Park

Partners: The City of Frederick, Program Open Space

Impact: On the Golden Mile, the City acquired the 136 acre Hargett Farm Park. The City just completed it master plan for the park. The City just broke ground for the Park Service Road which will lead to the development of fields and playgrounds.

Projects: Renn Parkland

The City has just acquired 70 acres of floodplain that will be used a passive park on the east side of the City. The acquisition of this park land will allow additional afforestation to be planted, stream bank restoration as well as walking trails, a 5K fun run and passive park uses.

Partners: Renn Farm Development

Impact: When completed this park will be the anchor of the Carroll Creek Park. It will create a unique park environment that will allow a user to start at the Monocacy River and travel out to the western edge of the City

along the Golde	n Mile. The Renn Farm is going through final approvals before construction can begin.
Projects: Carro	ıll Creek Linear Park – Culler Lake
	of Frederick, Friends of Baker Park, DNR, Morgan Keller, Frederick Seibert & Associates, dscape & Nursery, MBS Architects
for the area arou was redesign to has become a lea	y of Frederick has just completed a major improvement to Culler Lake. This lake is a SWM area and the lake. The lake was dredged of sediments to amount of 500 dump truck loads. The lake include bio filtration areas and mechanical systems to remove nutrients and sediments. This site arning area for the residents, allows greater access, provides accessible routes, and removes diments before entering Carroll Creek.
Accomplishn	ment 3:
Outcome: Projects:	
Partners:	
Impact:	
ur last Sustaiı	rative: Please use this section to describe any major outcomes or projects from nable Communities Action Plan that have <u>NOT</u> been accomplished and why.
Outcome:	
Narrative:	

Narrative:
Outcome:
Narrative:

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY RENEWAL REPORT PART II: COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT

Purpose:

The purpose of the comprehensive assessment is to capture indicators of accomplishments in each Sustainable Community. <u>Indicators should reflect the five year time period</u> since the adoption of the Sustainable Communities Action Plan. Thus, the following questions focus on the common outcomes that were identified in the various Sustainable Community Action Plans approved by the State. The assessment will be grouped in the sections of Environment, Economy, Transportation, Housing, Quality of Life, and Land Use.

Please answer the following questions to the best of your knowledge.

Check "YES" if applicable to your community. If you answer "YES" please quantify the accomplishment (i.e. Q: Has there been an increase in the number of businesses in your Main Street/commercial district? A: YES 4 new businesses have opened in the past five years). If necessary, please also provide a short description of the accomplishment.

Please check "NO" if the question item did not have any impact on your community. If you answer "NO" please briefly summarize what kept you from achieving your plan's desired outcomes.

Check "N/A", if the question item does not apply to your Sustainable Community.

EN	NVIRONMENT	YES	NO	N/A	If YES, specify in quantifiable units and compare values from the last five years If NO, why not? What kept you from achieving your plan's desired outcomes?
1.	Has there been an improvement in water quality?			N/A	The City does not monitor the Carroll or Rock Creeks.
2.	Has the amount of impervious surface in your Community been reduced? (Amount in SF)		No		The City of Frederick is a growing community so the amount of impervious surface has increased with new businesses or new homes being created. However the City of Frederick is working on its WS4 permit to reduce existing storm water runoff. Also the City of Frederick uses best practices as required by the State for new storm water retention.
3.	Have there been improvements and/ or additions to your park and/ or recreational green space?	Yes			1.On the Golden Mile, the City acquired the 136 acre Hargett Farm Park. The City just completed it master plan for the park. The City just broke ground for the Park Service Road which will lead to the development of fields and playgrounds. 2.The City has just acquired 24 acres of floodplain that will be used a passive park on the east side of the City. The acquisition of this park land will allow additional afforestation to be planted, stream bank restoration and passive park uses. 3. The City of Frederick has just completed a major improvement to Culler Lake. This lake is a SWM area for the area around the lake. The lake was dredged of sediments to amount of 500 dump truck loads. The lake was redesign to include bio filtration areas and mechanical systems to remove nutrients and sediments.
1)	Did the Sustainable Community implement any recycling or waste reduction programs?	Yes			The City of Frederick is part of the Frederick County's recycling program providing recycling to all residents in the Sustainable Action Plan. The City is currently exploring food waste recover in the Downtown to remove food items from the waste stream.
2)	Do all residents have access to healthy food options (i.e. fresh food grocery stores, farmers markets etc.) within the Sustainable Community?		No		The Golden Mile has several markets available with fresh food items. The Downtown and East Frederick do not have local markets. However in the East Frederick area, there are fewer residential units. The City has been trying to get a market in the Downtown area but our efforts have largely been unsuccessful.

OTHER:		

ECONOMY	YES	NO	N/A	If YES, specify in quantifiable units and compare values from the last five years If NO, why not? What kept you from achieving your plan's desired outcomes?
Has there been an increase in the number of new businesses in your Main Street/ Commercial District?			N/A	The vacancy rate in Downtown rate is low (5%). However the City of Frederick does not keep track of the new businesses coming to the City or businesses that have closed their doors.
2. Did the Municipality/ Sustainable Community area receive any designations that support local economic development?		No		
3. Has there been an increase in foot traffic in the Main Street/commercial district?	Yes			Many of the Downtown Events have resulted in street closures for North Market Street. These events include First Saturdays and other local events. DFP is considering on how to best measure the amount of foot traffic during these events and other non event days.
4. Have the number of commercial vacancies decreased?	Yes	No		The Golden Mile is seeing an increase in to the number of commercial vacancies. With the Fredericktown Mall struggling and trying to reposition itself and other sites closing, the City, NACs and the Golden Mile Alliance needs to consider options to reinvest in this area. The vacancy rate in downtown rate is low (5%). However the City of Frederick does not keep track of the new businesses coming to the City or businesses that have closed their doors. East Frederick has seen an increase in the number of breweries and distilleries locating in old industrial spaces. This has seen an slight increase in the number of new businesses locating in this area and reinvestments from existing businesses.

5. Has there been an increase in local jobs within the Sustainable Community for its residents?		N/A	The City does not have a way to quantify this question.
OTHER:			

TRA	ANSPORTATION	YES	NO	N/A	If YES, specify in quantifiable units and compare values from the last five years If NO, why not? What kept you from achieving your plan's desired outcomes?
1.	Has the amount of bike trails/paths increased? How many linear feet do the trails cover?	Yes			An additional ½ of path was completed and widen as part of the US 15 tunnel project. More importantly the connection between the east and west side of US 15 was made as part of a non-grade crossing for pedestrians and bikes.
2.	Have there been improvements to the public transit infrastructure?			N/A	The City does not control the transit system
3.	Has there been an increase in sidewalks? (Amount in linear feet)		No		The City of Frederick has aggressively addressed sidewalk issues in all three regions prior to this plan.

4.	Have there been any roadway improvements that support "Complete" or "Green" streets?		No		
5.	Has traffic congestion along major roads decreased? (Amount in percent)		No		
OTHE	CR:				
	HOUSING	YES	NO	N/A	If YES, specify in quantifiable units and compare values from the last five years If NO, why not? What kept you from achieving your plan's desired outcomes?
1.	Have any residential facades been improved?			N/A	The City has no way of tracking residential façade improvements.
2.	Has the home ownership rate increased?		No		

3. Has there been an increase in the number of housing units in the Sustainable Community area? What number and/or percent are affordable?				
4. Has there been demolition of blighted properties?		No		
5. Has the residential vacancy rate decreased?		No		The City of Frederick has a very tight housing market.
OTHER:				
QUALITY OF LIFE	YES	NO	N/A	If YES, specify in quantifiable units and compare values from the last five years If NO, why not? What kept you from achieving your plan's desired outcomes?
Has there been a decrease in crime rate?	Yes			Overall the drop in the City's crime rate has declined over the last five years.
2. Have there been improvements and/ or additions to your public spaces (i.e. museums, community centers, public plazas)?	Yes			The City continues to improve spaces along Carroll Creek Park to invite more activity. Also the improvements to the Culler Lake have spurred increase activity along that area of the park. In FY20 Budget for the first time, the Mayor allocated seed money for the Public Arts Commission.

pub ente pro	s there been an increase in olic art/ arts & ertainment grams/venues (i.e. murals, vie theatre, music events)?	Yes			The events in the Downtown Region have increased in popularity. As an example the First Saturday event "Fire & Ice", the City had to close off three blocks of North market Street to the number of people attending the event. Downtown Frederick Partnership and Office of Special Events continue to program events throughout these areas.
	w many historic properties re renovated/improved?	Yes			It is hard to quantify this question. Over the last three years the number of applications submitted to the Historic Preservation Commission has remain consent. 2016 – 351 applications 2017 – 337 applications 2018 – 378 applications While not all the applications are for residential properties, with the Downtown Business zoning that allows for both residential and commercial uses it would be hard to determine which applications are truly just residential.
hea opp athl inde	e there any residential lth and wellness cortunities in place (i.e. letic facilities, recreational coor/ outdoor courses or ups)?	Yes			All three areas (Golden Mile, Downtown and East Frederick) have access to parks, trails and other amenities. The Carroll Creek Trail is one of the backbones of this plan. The City is continuing to work to open new sections of this vital trail that serves this plan.
OTHER:					
	AND USE/ L PLANNING	YES	NO	N/A	If YES, specify in quantifiable units and compare values from the last five years If NO, why not? What kept you from achieving your plan's desired outcomes?
	ve there been any infill relopments?	Yes			We are seeing several projects that are using LIHTC to finance affordable housing and infill development. Steiner Hill, Goodwill Building and 520 North Market Street all used LIHTC funds as well as City and County PILOTs to make these units more affordable. Steiner Hill is a true infill project, 520 North Market Street used an existing building as well as an addition and Goodwill Building is repurposing an old industrial building. The Visitation Academy is in the approval process to repurpose an old nunnery in the heart of the downtown in a niche hotel and upscale townhouses. The old Fredericktown Mall is repositioning itself into becoming the anchor of the

				Golden Mile once again.
2.	Has there been an increase in the amount of preserved/protected land?	No		
3.	Have there been any developments hindered by growth constraints?		N/A	While I am sure development or projects have not happened because of planning, zoning, infrastructure issues. Most of these projects do not proceed to the entitlement process. It is very hard to gauge where and why projects don't continue to the entitlement process.
4.	Have there been any zoning or any policy changes that have fostered growth in your Sustainable Community?	No		The City is in the final stage of completing its first Strategic Plan for the City of Frederick. Once this roadmap is established, it will help guide the City resources to areas where attention is needed.
5.	Have there been any significant improvements to the municipal infrastructure within the Sustainable Community (i.e. street lighting, water/sewer lines)?	No		
ОТНЕ	ER:			

COMPETITIVE FUNDING: Use the rows below to list competed funds sought for sustainability or revitalization projects since receiving Sustainable Communities designation.	Source (federal, state, foundation, etc.)	Amount Received	If no funding was received, what technical or other assistance from the state would help with future applications?	Other Notes
Community Legacy (CL):	DHCD			
•				
Strategic Demolition Fund (SDF):	DHCD			
•				
Community Safety & Enhancement Program:	MDOT			
Maryland Bikeways Program:	MDOT			
Sidewalk Retrofit Program:	MDOT			
Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund:	MDE			

COMPETITIVE FUNDING: Use the rows below to list competed funds sought for sustainability or revitalization projects since receiving Sustainable Communities designation.	Source (federal, state, foundation, etc.)	Amount Received	If no funding was received, what technical or other assistance from the state would help with future applications?	Other Notes
Other Funding Programs: examples are U.S. HUD Commission, Chesapeake Bay Trust, Maryland Herita Corporation, Maryland Energy Administration, Mary	age Areas Associatio	n, Preservation	Maryland, Safe Routes to School, Maryland Rural I	
*Please add more rows if necessary				
Community Investment Tax Credits Increasing the Impact of the Main Street Program in Downtown FY16/FY17	DHCD	\$25,000		
Main Street Improvement Grant Connect Downtown – A Pedestrian Alley Project FY16	DHCD	\$10,000		
Technical Assistance Grant 118 N Market St – A Frederick Economic Innovation Effort FY16	DHCD	\$15,500		
Main Street Improvement Grant Live Downtown – Downtown Frederick Partnership Strategic Plan FY16	DHCD	\$20,000		
Main Street Improvement Grant First Saturday Flags and Signage FY17	DHCD	\$9,346.92		
Technical Assistance Grant Downtown Frederick Circulator Business Plan FY18	DHCD	\$15,000		

COMPETITIVE FUNDING: Use the rows below to list competed funds sought for sustainability or revitalization projects since receiving Sustainable Communities designation.	Source (federal, state, foundation, etc.)	Amount Received	If no funding was received, what technical or other assistance from the state would help with future applications?	Other Notes
Community Investment Tax Credits Advancing the Main Street Program FY18	DHCD	\$15,000		
Community Investment Tax Credits Pitchcraft and Signature Event Branding FY19	DHCD	\$6,750		
Community Investment Tax Credits Completing the Plan FY19	DHCD	\$20,000		
Community Legacy Grant - Facades (FY2019)	DHCD	\$100,000		
Community Legacy Grant - Facades (FY2018)	DHCD	\$150,000		
Community Legacy Grant - Facades (FY2017)	DHCD	\$150,000		
Community Legacy Grant - Facades (FY2016)	DHCD	\$100,000		

COMPETITIVE FUNDING: Use the rows below to list competed funds sought for sustainability or revitalization projects since receiving Sustainable Communities designation.	Source (federal, state, foundation, etc.)	Amount Received	If no funding was received, what technical or other assistance from the state would help with future applications?	Other Notes
Community Legacy Grant - Facades (FY2015)	DHCD	\$100,00		
Strategic Demolition Fund Grant 331 N. Market Property (FY2018)	DHCD	\$250,000		
Strategic Demolition Fund Grant Downtown Hotel (FY2016)	DHCD	\$500,000		
Bikeways Grant (FY2014)	ССР	\$500,000		

COMPETITIVE FUNDING: Are there any types of projects/needs for which your Sustainable Community needs funding; however, there isn't a funding source?

Sustainable Communities Renewal Application - Section B		

III. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN UPDATE

The Sustainable Community Action Plan (SC Plan or Plan) is meant to be a multi-year investment strategy – a strategic set of revitalization initiatives and projects that local partners believe will increase the economic vitality and livability of their community, increase prosperity for local households and improve the health of the surrounding environment. The Plan should be flexible enough to be updated regularly and renewed every five years as the community envisions new goals. The priority initiatives and projects identified in the action plan are your priorities for improving the livability of community places -- residential, commercial, or other public or private properties – and the sustainability of new work, retail, recreational and housing opportunities for residents. At the same time, the plan should only discuss the strategies that will impact the geographic area targeted for revitalization, so that resources have the best opportunity to have the intended effect. These projects can also be designed to reduce the environmental impact of the community through water and energy resource conservation and management strategies. In this way, the Plan can be a road map for local stakeholders as well as State agencies to work together to create a more a livable and sustainable community.

All communities submitted an SC Plan when the community earned its original designation. Some applicants may want to take advantage of the designation renewal process to outline new strategies, set new priorities or reaffirm existing strategies for their Sustainable Community. Changes to SC Plans may be due to changes in external factors affecting the community or changes in the priorities of the applicant.

Guidance for completing the Action Plan can be found on the next page.

Action Plan Guidance

The document has been broken down into the same six categories as the Comprehensive Assessment section of this document. These parts address key components of your Sustainable Community Action Plan. Follow the guidelines below to fill out the matrix.

- 1) For each of the different sections, pinpoint essential strengths and weaknesses of your community. Example Transportation: Strength Good sidewalk connectivity. Weakness Insufficient amount of downtown parking.
- 2) Based on those strengths and weaknesses, formulate specific outcomes that address the most pressing issues or greatest potentials. Include a means of measuring the success of said outcome. Example Economy: Outcome Expand broadband fiber optics in Town. Progress Measure Linear measurement of fiber laid and number of residential and business connections.
- 3) After defining the outcomes, list detailed strategies (break down to several action steps if needed) that will serve as the means to achieve those goals. Example Economy: Strategy Increase number of Town sponsored events → Develop with community input, a series of weekend events that the Town could host.
- 4) List potential partners that can support the successful implementation of these strategies through different types of resources. Example Economy: DHCD (Community Legacy program), Small Business Administration (Services and financial assistance) etc.

Sustainable Community Action Plan

City of Frederick

Submitted by City of Frederick 7/2/2019

Environment

(Environmental strengths and weaknesses can include but are not limited to quality of land, water, air, watersheds, tree canopy, risk of sea level rise, carbon footprint, energy conservation, access to local foods, green infrastructure, stormwater infrastructure/management, parks, trails and recreation, recycling, water and sewer capacity, etc)

<u>Strengths</u> <u>Weaknesses</u>

- The City of Frederick will adopt its first Strategic Plan in the summer of 2019. This will help prioritize the policies for the elected officials, staff and citizens.
- Have continually assess the City's forest canopy cover
- Volunteers and staff have planted a total of 662 trees in parks and the watershed in 2018
- The City has a total of 14 miles of on road bike lanes with 52 miles are planned.
- City crews installed new streetlights and stoplights to reduce energy consumption. Since 2013, electricity use at City facilities has risen by only .05 percent.
- Increase the use of newly acquired parkland for recreational and environmental uses. The City just recently acquired the Hargett Parkland (135 acres) and will soon acquire the Renn Parkland (78 acres). These two parks will provide a variety of activities and the environmental benefits.
- City of Frederick hired a Sustainability Manager in 2014. The efforts of this position have led to the following items.
 Watershed Clean Up to help protect the water supply Stream Restoration Projects
 By 2020 all of the City's energy will come from renewable resources Energy audits on all City buildings
 - Purchase of electric vehicles for the City's fleet Volunteers donated 1,157 hours in 2018 to plant trees, pick up trash and pull invasive plants.

- City's forest canopy cover is only at 20%. This is due in large part that a lot of the City was farms at one time. The new developments plants trees but it takes 40 years to achieve full canopy.
- Invasive species are hard to control. Forest Conversation Funds (Fee In Lieu Of) could be used to help manage invasive species.

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures Based on the strengths and weaknesses identify the strengths on which you would like to build and the challenges you would like to address. What outcomes are you trying to achieve? Where/ in what area do you want those changes to happen? Progress Measure: Identify how you will know that you have achieved your outcome.	Strategies and Action Items Identify strategies that will help your community to achieve each identified outcome to the left. If applicable, break down each strategy into specific action items that outline different steps of the strategy. Specify how you are planning to achieve the desired outcomes.	Implementation Partners Which community stakeholders need to be involved to realize each action step and strategy? Name specific public and/or private sector partners.
Outcome 1: Work to complete the initiatives of the City Sustainability Plan. The plan addresses many areas in the City including: Transportation, Energy, Recycling, Open Spaces, Food & Nutrition, Water and Air Quality. Progress Measures: Completion of goals in the plan.	Strategy A: Work with the Mayor & Board, other departments and the Sustainability Committee to make the City of Frederick a more sustainable community. Strategy B: Work with outside partners in creating programs, initiatives or funding sources to make the City of Frederick a more sustainable community.	Mayor and Board of Aldermen, Planning, Legal, Permits, Economic Development, East Frederick Rising, Downtown Frederick Partnership, Golden Mile Alliance, County & State Partners
Outcome 2: Increased forest canopy and manage invasive species. 2010 report had the City at 14% canopy cover and the 2017 report showed an increase to 20% canopy cover. Progress Measures: Canopy Assessments at 5-year intervals	Strategy A: Cost-share program to increase canopy in residential areas Strategy B: Bigger effort to plant open HOA common spaces Strategy C: Improved floodplain planting requirements Strategy D: Forest Conversation Funds (Fee In Lieu Of) could be used to help manage invasive species.	HOAs, Land Use Council, Parks & Recreation, DNR
Outcome 3: Increased multi-modal transportation options Progress Measures: Number of miles of on-road bicycle facilities and shared-use path	Strategy A: Continued and increased funding of the shared use path and bicycle facilities through City's CIPs Strategy B: Continued work with development community to build facilities and provide adequate bicycle parking Strategy C: Continued work with Frederick County to improve access to mass transit options	Frederick County TransIT, Land Use Council, City's Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee

[Type text]

Outcome 4: Decrease the amount of food waste entering the trash stream. No. The Sustainability Committee asked for some funding for residential compost pick up pilot for FY21. The Rotary Club is sponsoring school composting.	Strategy A: Start with a pilot program with the downtown restaurants. This would generate a large impact in a small geographic area. Strategy B: Look at partnering with other organizations in developing a residential pilot program.	Sustainable Committee, Local Non Profits, MDE, County Sustainable Committee
Outcome 5: Increase the food options in the City of Frederick. As an example, in 2019 Parks and Recreation created a farmer's market and food truck event that occurred every Friday during the Summer and Fall. Progress Measures: Number of markets that have	Strategy A: Increase the number and locations of open air and bricks & mortar markets Strategy B: Explore ways to add interest to farmers markets with food trucks, live music or other events.	Maryland Food Truck Association, Maryland Farmers Market Association, Local artisans, Property Owners (to host markets)
opened. Outcome 6: Increase the use of newly acquired parkland for recreational and environmental uses. The City just recently acquired the Hargett Parkland (135 acres) and will soon acquire the Renn Parkland (78 acres). These two parks will provide a variety of activities and the environmental benefits. These same strategies can be used for smaller parks acquired through the parkland dedication process. Progress Measures: Number of activities at each park Number of acres uses for environmental restoration	Strategy A: Increase funding opportunities for both parks to ensure that parkland can be used for the highest and best use. Strategy B: Use local universities to help facility design options for these and other parks. This was recently done for the Renn Park with the PALS project from the University of Maryland. Strategy C: Carroll Creek Restoration within the Renn Park. This park being located very close to Monocacy River has the potential for flooding and the ability to act as a buffer. Strategy D: Ensure that parks are well connected as shown in the 2002 Shared Use Path Plan.	Program Open Space, Universities and Colleges, Maryland Department of Environment, Parks and Recreation Commission, Sustainable Committee, Youth Advisory Committee

Economy

(Economic strengths and weaknesses can include but are not limited to regional accessibility, business attraction/retention, health of the business district and commercial vacancies, workforce/employment and economic drivers, local policies/regulations, marketing, tourism, cultural and historic assets)

<u>Strengths</u>	<u>Weaknesses</u>
The City of Frederick will adopt its first Strategic Plan in the summer of	The City of Frederick lacks a Downtown Hotel and Conference

2019. This will help prioritize the policies for the elected officials, staff and citizens.

- Diversity of businesses
- The City of Frederick is the County's seat. The City has strong governmental employment presence which includes City Hall, County Courthouse, Winchester Hall and the main branch of the County Library.
- The City of Frederick is fortunate to have Fort Detrick as part of its employment base.
- Downtown Frederick is the core of the City and County. The Downtown is the State's largest Historic District. The local district is a regional draw for tourism.
- Culturally the City of Frederick has very strong tourist destinations which include the Weinberg Center for the Arts, New Spires Arts, Maryland Ensemble Theater, Way Off Broadway, Delaplaine Visual Arts Center, National Museum of Civil War Medicine and many local art galleries.
- The City of Frederick has three great nonprofits that help promote the various areas along the corridor: Downtown Frederick Partnership, Golden Mile Alliance and East Frederick Rising.
- The City of Frederick has a strong partner with the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area.
- The City of Frederick has seen a steady and predictable population growth and expects this growth to continue. The City needs to encourage this population base to support local businesses.
- The City of Frederick is in a strong position sitting at the top of the Washington DC and Baltimore triangle.

Center.

- The Golden Mile has lost its shine and needs a new infusion of commercial activities.
- •

Outcome 1: Increase tourism to the City and County and along the corridor Progress Measures: County Tourism Counts	Strategy A: Find unique opportunities for tourist to visit each of the three areas along the corridor. Strategy B: Have the Golden Mile, Downtown Frederick Partnership and East Frederick Rising work collaboratively to promote each area along the corridor. Strategy C: Many of the Desired Outcomes in this section goes to increasing and promoting tourism to the City of Frederick and along this vital corridor. Outcomes 2, 4, 5,7 & 8. Strategy D: Determine cultural and historical resources located along the corridor and work to enhance their use as a draw for tourism.	Visit Frederick, Golden Mile Alliance, Downtown Frederick Partnership, East Frederick Rising and Economic Development
Outcome 2: Expand the number of breweries, distilleries and wineries in the City of Frederick. Progress Measures: Actual number of breweries, distilleries and wineries in the City of Frederick.	Strategy A: Work on allowing entertainment in breweries, distilleries and wineries. Strategy B: Promote the use of food trucks and famers markets as codependent uses Strategy C: Create a marketing tools to promote local breweries (passport stamp and prize for visiting all local breweries).	Planning, Economic Development, Legal, Mayor and Board of Aldermen
	<u> </u>	
Outcome 3: Promote redevelopment of under untitled properties and in fill developments. Progress Measures: Number of properties that have substantial redevelopment.	Strategy A: Create new and promote existing tax credits for redevelopment and infill development. Strategy B: Revisit building codes, zoning and land use regulations to strengthen incentives for redevelopment and infill development Strategy C: Consider a rental licensing ordinance to maintain a list of rental properties. Regular inspections will help ensure that the rental units are maintained. Strategy D: Create a map of vacant or underutilized properties in the City.	Mayor and Board of Aldermen, Planning, Legal, Permits, Economic Development, East Frederick Rising, Downtown Frederick Partnership, Golden Mile Alliance
Outcome 4: Support the Fredericktowne Mall in repositioning itself in the market place. The mall just started a rebranding effort in calling itself "District 40". Also, a cinema is planning to opening in Summer 2020 to serve as an anchor. Progress Measures: Number of events, stores & businesses occupying the mall.	Strategy A: Support the rezoning of the property from Mixed Use to Commercial. Strategy B: Support economic programs and incentives for the Golden Mile Corridor. Strategy C: Develop a form base code for the Golden Mile Corridor to help promote more diverse development. Strategy D: Continue the marketing campaign for this section of the City. Recently the Golden Mile added light pole banners further establishing the brand of the Golden Mile.	Mayor and Board of Aldermen, Planning, Legal, Permits, Economic Development, Golden Mile Alliance
Outcome 5: Support Golden Mile and East Frederick Rising in becoming a more diverse destination. It is also important to this area to	Strategy A: Develop a form base code along North & South East Street to implement the East Street Corridor Plan. Strategy B: Encourage the development of more unique business and stores in this area. Currently	Mayor and Board of Aldermen, Planning, Legal, Permits,

encourage existing businesses to expand and capitalize on their success. Progress Measures: Number of new stores, businesses starting in East Frederick Rising. Number of special events being held in this area of the City.	East Frederick Rising has at least 7 small scale breweries and distilleries and a local bus offering services to these establishments. Strategy C: Make vital pedestrian and street connections to promote the grid street system and the 2002 Shared Use Path Plan. Currently the City is working on the SUPP on building a 1 mile section of path on East Street. Strategy D: Create a vibrant marketing campaign for this section of the City.	Economic Development, East Frederick Rising
Outcome 6: The City of Frederick has seen a steady and predictable population growth and expects this growth to continue. The City needs to encourage this population base to support local businesses. Progress Measures: Miles of Shared Use Path constructed. Number of events. Number of civic spaces created	Strategy A: Ensure that the residential neighborhoods are well connected to the commercial areas by attractive sidewalks, walkways and by the Shared Use Path Plan. Strategy B: All three areas have great nonprofits that can promote each of these areas by: Create and enhance destinations, civic places and other areas of interest to invite the public to these areas. Create programing to draw the public into the public / civic spaces. Enhance branding campaigns to establish name recognition Create and enhance public art along this vital corridor	Mayor, Board of Aldermen, Economic Development, Planning, City Public Arts Commission, State and County Agencies
Outcome 7: Downtown Frederick does not have a hotel. It has been the priority of the last 3 administrations to facilitate the construction of a hotel. Progress Measures: Construction of a downtown hotel / conference space	Strategy A: Work with all partners to receive the necessary approvals for the construction of the hotel. Strategy B: Work with all partners to secure the funding for the construction of the hotel. Strategy C: Support Downtown Frederick Partnership's Strategic Plan to fully support the downtown hotel.	Mayor, Board of Aldermen, Economic Development, Downtown Frederick Partnership, Planning, State and County Agencies.
Outcome 8: Create market studies for each area to best determine the types and number of business for each area Progress Measure: Final market studies	Strategy B: Work with the three nonprofits, Economic Development and other State and County agencies to determine the best process for creating marketing studies for each area.	Nonprofits, Economic Develop, County and State Agencies
Outcome 9: Create a Form Based Code for the Golden Mile and East Street (within East Frederick Rising). The City is proposing funds to	Strategy A: Hire a consultant to create FBC's for each of these corridors. These codes will place the emphasis on design rather than use. By creating these codes, the City can enhance the attributes unique to each corridor and help further the sense of place. This will help create a more vibrant corridor and encourage growth.	Mayor and Board of Aldermen, Planning, Legal, East Frederick Rising, Golden Mile

hire a consultant to create these codes in FY21	Alliance.
Progress Measures: Adoption of the codes	

Transportation

(Transportation strengths and weaknesses can include access to transit corridors, pedestrian safety and accessibility/sidewalks, alternative modes of transportation, such as bikeways and trails, public transit, such as bus and rail, carpooling, proximity to transportation centers, parking, road conditions)

parking, road conditions)		
Strengths	Weaknesses	
 The City of Frederick will adopt its first Strategic Plan (made part of this application) in the summer of 2019. This will help prioritize the policies for the elected officials, staff and citizens. The City has a total of 14 miles of on road bike lanes with 52 miles are planned. The City of Frederick completed the connection under US 15 to connect the east and west sides of US 15 with a Shared Use Path (tunnel). More importantly this connection has a non-grade crossing for pedestrians and bikes. The City of Frederick is about to undertake a study on Freight with the assistance of a TLC grant from COG. The City of Frederick has a TA from the State to create bus lane so that buses do not have to pull in and out of the many shopping centers along Route 40. 	 The City of Frederick does not have a reliable mass transit option to DC. The City and County's MARC stations only have 3 outgoing and 3 incoming trains every day and no weekend service. With 40% of the citizens commuting out of county, I270 with only 2 lanes always has congestion. With the large amount of pass through traffic from Pennsylvania, US 15 is always congested. This short section of US 15 has seen increasing traffic volumes. 	

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures	Strategies and Action Items	Implementation Partners
Outcome 1: Increased multi-modal transportation	Strategy A: Continued and increased funding of the shared use path and bicycle	Frederick County TransIT, Land Use
options	facilities through City's CIPs	Council, City's Bicycle Pedestrian
	Strategy B: Continued work with development community to build facilities and	Advisory Committee, Parks &
Progress Measures: Number of miles of on-road	provide adequate bicycle parking	Recreation, SHA, Washington COG,
bicycle facilities and shared-use path	Strategy C: Continued work with Frederick County to improve access to mass	MDOT, SHA
	transit options	
	Strategy D: Continue to work on the East Street Corridor Rails to Trails	
	connection.	
	Strategy E: Continue to work on the Golden Mile Multimodal Access Project	
	that will provide a dedicated bus lane and a 10' path on the north side of the	

	Golden Mile. This is partial funded through MDOT, SHA and Federal Transportation Alternatives Grant. Strategy F: Increase the connectiveness along the East Street Corridor to allow for expanded grid road network and pedestrian connections. Strategy G: Strategic Plan Initiative 1.03.001 Implement and resource the approved Electric Vehicle Management Plan	
Outcome 2: Reduce the number of commuter trips out of the County. Progress Measures: County residents driving to DC and Baltimore on a daily basis. Number of riders on MARC Number of riders State Commuter Buses	Strategy A: Work with MARC to increase the number of trips to and from Frederick and add a weekend line. Strategy B: Add additional buses to facilitate higher ridership Strategy C: Allow buses to ride on shoulders to create an incentive in quicker trips Strategy D: Work with Economic Development to find business willing to locate in the City of Frederick.	City of Frederick, Frederick County, MARC, MTA, MDOT, Economic Development
Outcome 3: Increase options in the downtown to allow full utilization of the existing parking decks, increase vehicle flow, and allow for effective delivery of goods and services. Progress Measures: Evaluate parking deck utilization Evaluate level of service for existing streets	Strategy A: Complete the Downtown Parking and Circulator Study. Strategy B: Work to develop demonstration projects in the downtown to help ease congestion. Strategy C: Complete the Frederick Freight Needs Assessment being funded by a TLC Grant from COG. Strategy D: Evaluate existing sidewalk and work to make Downtown Frederick more pedestrian friendly.	City of Frederick, Frederick County, MARC, MTA, MDOT, Economic Development, COG

Housing

(Housing strengths and weaknesses can include affordability, homeownership vs rental, housing stock diversity, housing condition and value, housing programs, foreclosures, residential vacancies, property values, home sale values)

nousing programs, foreclosures, residential vacancies, property values, nome sale values)		
Strengths	Weaknesses	
 The City of Frederick has adopted its first Strategic Plan (made part of this application) in the summer of 2019. This will help prioritize the policies for the elected officials, staff and citizens. The City of Frederick has a diverse housing market with 1/3 of our housing stock in single family, townhouse and multifamily. This make up has been historic trend since the 1970's. The City of Frederick has been building on average 430 units over the last ten years. This control pace allows for services to remain at a constant rate. Over the last ten years the City of Frederick has seen an increase in the number of affordable projects using Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) along with PILOT programs from both the City and County. 	 The City of Frederick does not have a department that is in charge of creating and advocating for housing policies. The City of Frederick does not have a reliable mass transit option to DC. The City and County's MARC stations only have 3 outgoing and 3 incoming trains every day and no weekend service. Land values are less expensive that elsewhere in the WASHCOG Region and the City has a lot of greenfield developments instead of focusing on redevelopment. 	

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures	Strategies and Action Items ———	Implementation Partners
Outcome 1: Create a point person or department to advance housing issues	Strategy A: This could be a new position to the City just to advance housing policies. Strategy B: This could be an existing position or department.	Mayor and Board of Aldermen
Progress Measures: Person or department is appointed by the Mayor		
Outcome 2: Continue to support affordable and diverse housing options in the City of Frederick. Progress Measures: Track number of projects (units) that took advantage of funding programs	Strategy A: Continue to support LIHTC projects in the City. Strategy B: Continue to offer PILOT Program to projects that offer affordable and diverse housing options. Strategy C: Consider reducing or eliminating impact fees for projects that offer affordable and diverse housing options. Strategy D: Consider creating an Affordable Housing Fund with a dedicate stream of revenue. For example, Tax rental units owned by non-City residents	Mayor and Board of Aldermen

Outcome 3: Create a Form Based Code for the	at a higher rate and place the difference in the AHF to discourage investors buying up properties within the City. Strategy E: Create a Housing Report for the City of Frederick that assess the needs and gaps in the City to provide affordable and diverse housing options and creates a definition of affordability. Strategy F: Create an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) Ordinance in the City of Frederick Strategy G: Conservation districts on older neighborhoods with affordable housing to prevent teardowns. Strategy H: Support Downtown Frederick Partnership of creating more dwelling units in the downtown. Strategy I: Use CDBG Funds to purchase homes and buy down the mortgage to offer to low / mod family. Strategy J: Creation of an Affordable Housing Fund and other programs to help reduce the cost of housing	
Golden Mile and East Street (within East Frederick Rising). The City is proposing funds to hire a consultant to create these codes in FY21. This would allow for more diverse housing options. Progress Measures: Adoption of the codes	Strategy A: Hire a consultant to create FBC's for each of these corridors. These codes will place the emphasis on design rather than use. By creating these codes, the City can enhance the attributes unique to each corridor and help further the sense of place. This will help create a more vibrant corridor and encourage growth. Strategy B: Form Based Codes promotes greater housing choices and a more equitable development.	Mayor and Board of Aldermen, Planning, Legal, East Frederick Rising, Golden Mile Alliance.
Outcome 4: Promote redevelopment of underutilized properties and in fill developments. Progress Measures: Number of properties that have substantial redevelopment.	Strategy A: Create new and promote existing tax credits for redevelopment and infill development. Strategy B: Revisit building codes, zoning and land use regulations to strengthen incentives for redevelopment and infill development Strategy C: Consider incentives for under utilized second and third floors. This could include grants and loans for sprinklers, elevators, and ADA access. Strategy D: Support Downtown Frederick's Strategic Plan to increase the number of new residents in the downtown.	Mayor and Board of Aldermen, Planning, Legal, Permits, Economic Development, East Frederick Rising, Downtown Frederick Partnership, Golden Mile Alliance

Quality of Life

(Strengths and weaknesses can include crime, socio-economic demographics, educational opportunities, museums, libraries, historic and cultural assets, civic amenities, faith-based organizations, economic health of households, sense of place, etc)

Strengths Weaknesses Weaknesses

- The City of Frederick has adopted its first Strategic Plan (made part of this application) in the summer of 2019. This will help prioritize the policies for the elected officials, staff and citizens.
- The City of Frederick has strong cultural and faith base groups that help foster a strong quality of life. In addition, the City of Frederick, Downtown Frederick Partnership and Celebrate Frederick provide unique opportunities for its residents to participate in a variety of activities.
- The City of Frederick is about to start the process to adopt its first Parks
 Master Plan. This plan would not only look at the parks and locations
 but also the facilities and services provided at each park.
- With limited resources, the City struggles to provide services to all areas of the community. The City relies on other organizations to help provide services where needed. While this is listed as a weakness it is also a strength in that the City is fortunate to have strong community partners.
- The City acquired and has planned for the first phase of the 136 acre Westside Regional Park. The City is struggling to find partners in help developing this needed asset on the Golden Mile.

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures	Strategies and Action Items ———	Implementation Partners
Outcome 1: Work with neighborhoods to develop and enhance community character to help create a local source of pride. Progress Measures: Neighborhood designs and projects	Strategy A: Identify local neighborhoods and identify the unique community features within that neighborhood (parks, schools, trees, open space, public buildings). Strategy B: Work with the local community to enhance or create those features. Strategy C: Work to enhance each area unique characteristics to make each area an enticing and distinctive destination. Strategy D: Support the adoption of the Public Arts Commission new Strategic Plan (2020) that advocates public art in all neighborhoods of the City.	Planning, Engineering, NACs, Golden Mile Alliance, East Frederick Rising, Downtown Frederick Partnership,

Outcome 2: Work to ensure that all adopted plans work together for the betterment of the City. These plans include City's Strategic Plan, 2020 Comprehensive Plan, Shared Use Path Plan, Golden Mile Small Area Plan, East Street Corridor Small Area Plan, Downtown Frederick Partnership's Strategic Plan City's Parks Master Plan (2021), Sustainability Plan, and the Public Arts Commission Strategic Plan (2020). Progress Measures: Number of goals and initiatives completed from each plan.	Strategy A: Work to coordinate the efforts of these various plans to create the best possible effort for success when applying for grants, loans and other sources of funding for projects. Strategy B: Develop champions for each plan to help promote the need and purpose for each of these plans. These champions will help drive many of the efforts of these plans forward. Strategy C: Work with the Mayor's Office in developing a work program that include elements of each of these plans. Strategy D: Provide regular updates to the Mayor and Board of Alderman and various commissions on the execution of these plans. Strategy E: Work to identify incentives that will ensure the goals of these plans. Strategy F: Work to create or remove regulations that will help to attain the goals of these plans.	Mayor, Board of Aldermen, All City Departments and City partners
Outcome 3: Work on creating neighborhood connections as outlined in the Shared Use Path Plan (attachment). This will help provide alternative means of travel between residential and commercial areas in the City. Progress Measures: Miles of path constructed.	Strategy A: Identify the sections of path that would provide the most opportunity to create meaningful connections. Strategy B: Work with developers to complete critical links of the path system. Strategy C: Ensure all City CIP projects consider additional path connections.	Planning, Engineering, MDE, DNR, County and local developers
Outcome 4: Work with neighborhoods to create activities within each neighborhood that are unique to each neighborhood. Progress Measures: Number of events	Strategy A: Work with each neighborhood, Parks and Recreation and Special Events to create a list of existing events offered in each neighborhood Strategy B: Work with each neighborhood, Parks and Recreation and Special Events to create unique events that will help create bonds with the neighborhood. Strategy C: Support the adoption of the Public Arts Commission new Strategic Plan (2020) that advocates public art in all neighborhoods of the City.	NAC's, Parks and Recreation and Special Events

Local Planning and Land Use

(Strengths and weaknesses in the local planning and land use subject area include but are not limited to zoning, land use, policies, taxes and fees, historical patterns of development, lot sizes and shapes, etc)

Strengths	Weaknesses
 The City of Frederick will adopt its first Strategic Plan (made part of this application) in the summer of 2019. This will help prioritize the policies for the elected officials, staff and citizens. The City of Frederick is in the process of updating its Comprehensive Plan. In tandem with the Strategic Plan, these plans will help create and form policies for the City moving forward. 	 The City of Frederick has a thriving downtown, but the old commercial corridor is in need of help. The City also has a large amount of single family units are 5,000 sq ft lots. The reason for these two issues is that it is still cheaper to develop green fields than redevelop existing sites. The City of Frederick and Frederick County see a large number of citizens moving from areas around DC for a different lifestyle. However the expectations of services are still high although both the City and County have lower tax rates.

Desired Outcomes and Progress Measures	Strategies and Action Items ———	Implementation Partners
Outcome 1: Adoption of the 2020 Comprehensive Plan Progress Measures: Adoption of the Plan	Strategy A: Work with citizens, staff and elected officials in creating a plan that will direct the City's growth for the next 10 years. Strategy B: Once adopted (Summer 2020) use the Comprehensive Plan as the base for a comprehensive rezoning to reflect the land use map.	citizens, staff, other county and state agencies, and elected officials
Outcome 2: Consider adopting a Form Base Code (FBC) Progress Measures: Adoption of a Form Based Code	Strategy A: Research other communities that have existing FBCs and the pro's and con's of such a code. Strategy B: Determine if a FBC should be city wide or limited to a Small Area Plan Strategy C: Engage the citizens, development community and elected officials in determining if this is the right direction for the City.	Citizens, staff, development community and elected officials
Outcome 3: Create a point person or department to advance housing issues. Progress Measures: Person or department is appointed by the Mayor	Strategy A: This could be a new position to the City just to advance housing policies. Strategy B: This could be an existing position or departments.	Mayor and Board of Aldermen

Outcome 4: Support Efforts of the City's 2020	Strategy A: 1.01.004 Address city land use regulations to allow a variety of	Mayor and Board of Aldermen,
Strategic Plan.	options for innovative housing choices throughout the City	Planning, Legal, Permits, Economic
	Strategy B: 1.01.005 Implement measures to help ensure safe high-quality	Development, East Frederick Rising,
	rental housing units throughout the City	Downtown Frederick Partnership,
	Strategy C: 1.02.001 Prioritize and Implement small-area planning throughout	Golden Mile Alliance
	the City	
	Strategy D: 1.02.003 Incentivize infill development	
	Strategy E: 1.02.004 Increase and improve the accessibility for everyone to a	
	shared- use path, bike lane, or sidewalk	
	Strategy F: 1.02.005 Work with neighborhood groups to improve community	
	identity and placemaking	
	Strategy G: 1.04.001 Improve the pedestrian experience and implement	
	elements of complete street design throughout the City	
	Strategy H: 1.05.002 Ensure flexible land use regulations to allow suitable	
	mixtures of residential and non-residential uses within new and existing	
	development	
Outcome 5: Promote redevelopment of underutilized	Strategy A: Create new and promote existing tax credits for redevelopment and	Mayor and Board of Aldermen,
properties and in fill developments.	infill development.	Planning, Legal, Permits, Economic
properties and in mideralepinemen	Strategy B: Revisit building codes, zoning and land use regulations to	Development, East Frederick Rising,
Progress Measures: Number of properties that have	strengthen incentives for redevelopment and infill development	Downtown Frederick Partnership,
substantial redevelopment.	Strategy C: Create a map of underutilized properties in the City.	Golden Mile Alliance
Substantian redevelopment.		

[Type	text]
-------	-------

Attachments to this report:

Strategic Plan

https://www.cityoffrederickmd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/17606/20191219-Strategic-Plan-Master-Doc

https://www.cityoffrederickmd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/17605/20191219-Strategic-Plan-Appendix

City of Frederick's 2010 Comprehensive Plan

https://www.cityoffrederickmd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/585/2010-Comprehensive-Plan-Update-Download?bidId=

Shared Use Path Plan

(attached)

East Street Small Area Plan

https://www.cityoffrederickmd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/9413/Adopted-East-Street-Corridor-Small-Area-Plan?bidId=

Golden Mile Small Area Plan

https://www.cityoffrederickmd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1143/Golden-Mile-Small-Area-Plan?bidId=

Draft Public Arts Commission Strategic Plan

(attached)

SIGNATURE LETTER

On behalf of [INSERT Applicant local government full name], I hereby approve the application for renewal of the Sustainable Communities designation for [INSERT Sustainable Community Name]. I understand that the Disclosure Authorization and Certification from the original Sustainable Communities application continues to apply to the applicant local government, and as such the applicant agrees that not attaching an objection constitutes consent to the information being made available to the public, and a waiver of any rights the applicant may have regarding this information under Maryland's Access to Public Records Act, State Government Article, Section 10-611 et seq. of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

I also confirm that I am named or a former holder of my current title is named as an authorized official for the Sustainable Communities designation for my local government in the Local Government Authorization submitted with the original application.

Authorized Signature

Type Name and Title

Date